

APR 06 2004

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PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

**Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant  
application filed on or after June 8, 1995.**

**See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).**

Application Number	09/920,619
Filing Date	August 3, 2001
Examiner Name	Shean Chiu Wu
First Named Inventor	Kazuaki TARUMI et al.
Group Art Unit	1756
Attorney Docket Number	MERCK-2286

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

**1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a.  Previously submitted

- Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. Enclosed

- Amendment/Reply
- Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Miscellaneous**

a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

- RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

b.  Check in the amount of \$ 770.00 enclosed

c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print /Type)	John A. Sopp	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	33,103
Signature		Date	April 6, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

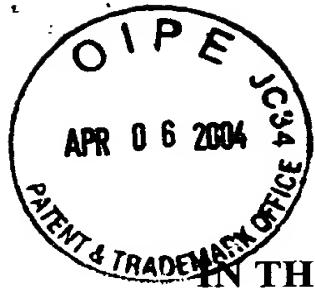
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Kazuaki TARUMI et al.

Confirmation No.: 6956

Serial No.: 09/920,619

Examiner: Shean Chiu Wu

Filed: August 3, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1756

Title: LIQUID-CRYSTALLINE MEDIUM AND LIQUID-CRYSTAL DISPLAY

**REPLY with RCE FILING**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In connection with the concurrently filed Request for Continued Examination and in response to the Final Office Action mailed October 6, 2003, and the Advisory Action mailed March 10, 2004, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows.

The Reply filed February 6, 2004, was not entered and should not be entered.

**Amendments and additions to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.